

The Honorable James L. Robart

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

THE HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENSE
CENTER, *et al.*,
Plaintiffs,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES, *et al.*,
Defendants.

CASE NO. C18-01442-JLR

**JOINT STATUS REPORT AND
ORDER**

Noted for: August 27, 2020

Plaintiffs THE HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENSE CENTER (“HRDC”) and
MICHELLE DILLON (collectively, “Plaintiffs”) and Defendants U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES and OFFICE OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT (collectively,
“Defendants”) hereby provide the Court with a Joint Status Report pursuant to the
Court’s July 8, 2020 Order (Dkt. No. 55).

Since the last Joint Status Report (Dkt. No. 54), filed on July 7, 2020, Plaintiffs
provided Defendants with a settlement demand to resolve their claim for attorneys’ fees

1 and costs. Defendants are in the process of obtaining settlement authority for the
 2 purposes of entering into settlement negotiations. As this case involves two separate
 3 entities within the Department of Health and Human Services, this process is time-
 4 intensive as it includes various reviewing entities and authorizations.
 5

6 Plaintiffs' claim for attorneys' fees and costs is the sole remaining claim of this
 7 litigation. The Parties plan to attempt to resolve that issue without the need for judicial
 8 intervention. Accordingly, the Parties request that they be given until October 12, 2020,
 9 to file a stipulated dismissal of this matter with prejudice if they reach agreement on fees
 10 and costs. Should the Parties not resolve that issue October 12, 2020, the Parties will
 11 submit a joint status report on that date.
 12

13 DATED this 27th day of August, 2020.
 14
 15

16 Respectfully Submitted,
 17 BRIAN T. MORAN
 18 United States Attorney

19 s/ Michelle R. Lambert
 20 MICHELLE R. LAMBERT, NYS #4666657
 21 Assistant United States Attorney
 22 United States Attorney's Office
 23 700 Stewart Street, Suite 5220
 24 Seattle, Washington 98101
 25 Phone: (206) 553-7970
 26 Fax: (206) 553-4073
 27 Email: michelle.lambert@usdoj.gov
 28

Attorneys for Defendant

ARETE LAW GROUP PLLC

s/ Jeremy E. Roller

JEREMY E. ROLLER, WSBA #32021

1218 Third Avenue, Suite 2100

Seattle, WA 98101

Phone: (206) 428-3250

Email: jroller@aretelaw.com

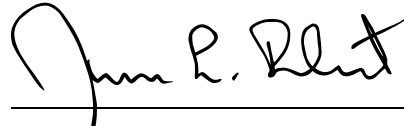
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

ORDER

It is hereby ORDERED that:

The parties shall file a stipulated dismissal of this matter with prejudice or a joint status report to the Court on or before October 12, 2020.

Dated this 27th day of August, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James L. Robart", written over a horizontal line.

JAMES L. ROBART
United States District Judge